



# EMC News

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## **FINGER LAKES DECISION SUPPORT SYSTEM** Featured Demonstration at the September EMC meeting

David Carr, Matt Starr, and Nate Krause from the Institute for Applied Geospatial Technology will demonstrate the Finger Lakes Decision Support System (FLDSS). This is a web-based, 3-D visualization environment that combines photo-realistic imagery with terrain information. The tool is designed to enable users to employ NASA data to navigate through and around their area to assist in making environmentally sound land use decisions at the local level.

## **NEW YORK STATE ASSOCIATION OF EMCs** **ACCEPTING NOMINATIONS FOR DIRECTORS** *Submitted by Heather Filiberto*

The New York State Association of Environmental Management Councils is seeking nominations for a number of seats on the Board of Directors. The Board meets approximately four times a year to conduct business. Travel expenses are reimbursable. If any EMC members are interested in sitting on this board, contact Heather at [hfiliberto@tompkins-co.org](mailto:hfiliberto@tompkins-co.org). Nominations will be accepted until September 20<sup>th</sup>.

## **2004 NEW YORK STATE ASSOCIATION OF EMCs** **AWARDS PROGRAM** *Submitted by Heather Filiberto*

The New York State Association of EMCs invites applications for the Annual Awards Program to recognize the unique and outstanding achievements of EMCs and their volunteers. Awards applications will be accepted until September 20<sup>th</sup> in two categories: Outstanding EMC Member and Outstanding Project. See the EMC mail folder at the meeting for details.

## **GREEN BUILDING FAIR** *Submitted by Christian Nielsen-Palacios*

The Ithaca Green Building Alliance will hold its annual Green Building Fair at the Farmers' Market on Sunday, September 19 (during Market hours).

## **GREEN BUILDINGS OPEN HOUSE & TOUR** **SATURDAY & SUNDAY, OCTOBER 2 & 3** *Submitted by Tania Schusler*

Don't miss this unique opportunity to see first-hand how renewable energy and green building practices are at work in the Ithaca area. Homeowners and building managers will be on site to describe their green building features – such as solar heating/passive solar, super insulation, salvaged and non-toxic building materials, solar hot water, photovoltaics, wind power and more – and answer questions.

Shuttle van tours led by green building professionals will run from 12 to 4 p.m. each day. \$10/person or \$15/two from same household (scholarships available). For more information and to register, call 272-2292. Members of the public can also do a self-guided tour between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. each day. Most buildings will be open on either Sat. or Sun. but not both days. A complete schedule with building features and directions will be available at the Northeast Sustainable Energy Association website at <http://www.nesea.org/buildings/openhouse>. Or call 272-2292 to request a brochure and map.

Organized by Cooperative Extension, Ithaca Green Building Alliance, Finger Lakes Energy Task Force, and Sustainable Tompkins in conjunction with NESEA's Green Buildings Open House and the American Solar Energy Society's National Solar Tour.

more News! 

## **TOWN OF CAROLINE REPORT**

*Submitted by Steve Nicholson*

- Scott Nostrand, an environmental engineer at Barton and Loguidice in Syracuse, gave an excellent presentation on brownfield remediation possibilities for the Midnight Sun property next to the Town Hall. If the Town of Caroline purchases the site, DEC will pay for 90% of remediation, 100% of any off site work deemed necessary, and 50% of building demolition costs. This property is too small for a septic system, and has no water, so the only logical owner would seem to be the Town, as they could upgrade their existing system. A property assessment is being undertaken.
- The wells for the aquifer study are being sited, and should be drilled this fall.
- The Planning Board has compiled the town-wide survey results, and watershed and other environmental issues were near the top of resident concerns.
- The Open Space committee is determined to protect the historical rural character of the town, and will submit a report in October.

## **GREEN VISITORS!**

*Submitted by Christian Nielsen-Palacios*

Top people from USGBC visited Ithaca recently, invited by Christian Nielsen-Palacios: David Eisenberg, Board member, and Chair of USGBC's Greening the Codes Committee, was in Ithaca August 11 to deliver a presentation on Straw Bale Schools with Laura Struempfer, a well known expert.

Then, the weekend of Aug. 14-15, Nigel Howard and Kris Prendergast were here to visit EcoVillage, the Farmer's Market, and several gorges and waterfalls, and attended the Saturday evening concert at Taughannock. Nigel is USGBC's VicePresident for LEED and International Programs. Kris is their Director of Membership and Chapter Services.

**See you at the next EMC meeting!**  
September 8<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm

## **OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST FROM COOPERATIVE EXTENSION**

*Submitted by Tania Schusler*

### ● Controlling Woody Exotics and Promoting Native Plants

Thurs., Sept. 16, 5 – 6:30 PM

The fall, late winter and early spring are good times to cut and treat honeysuckle, buckthorn and other exotic species. This class will demonstrate these techniques and also explain where and how to collect seeds to replant areas with native plants. Free. Pre-registration requested. 272-2292

### ● Renewable Energy Options for Homeowners

Wed., Sep. 22, 10:30-11:30 a.m.

Is renewable energy right for you? Learn the basics on solar and wind energy and incentives available through the New York Energy \$mart<sup>SM</sup> Program. Free. Call Carole Fisher 272-2292 for meeting location and pre-registration.

### ● Environmental Resource Fair

Wed., Oct. 20, 4:30-7:30 p.m.

Cooperative Extension, Ithaca

Drop by and talk with community and extension experts on over 20 subjects, including home energy conservation, indoor air quality, putting the garden to bed, woodlot management, ponds, composting, wells and septic systems. Your questions answered ... guaranteed! Door prizes.

### ● Increasing Your Home's Energy Efficiency and Comfort

Wed., Nov. 10, 10:30-11:30 a.m.

Learn about ways to make your home more energy efficient and resources to help you achieve this through the New York Energy \$mart<sup>SM</sup> Program. Free. Call Carole Fisher at 272-2292 for meeting location and pre-registration.